

REMARKS

Prior to this amendment, claims 1-34 were pending in this application. Claims 1, 15, 16 and 20 have been amended. Claim 35 has been added. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of this application as amended in view of the following remarks.

35 U.S.C. 103(a) Rejection, Leatherbury, Pecus, Brodigan

The Office Action rejected claims 1-28 and 30-34 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,763,025 issued to Leatherbury et al. (hereinafter "**Leatherbury**"), in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,886,029 issued to Pecus et al. (hereinafter "**Pecus**").

The Office Action rejected claim 29 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over **Leatherbury**, in view of **Pecus**, and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,380,971 issued to Brodigan et al. (hereinafter "**Brodigan**").

Applicants appreciate the courtesy extended by the Examiner to Applicants' attorney during a telephone interview on September 30, 2005. During that interview Applicants' attorney pointed out the differences between the invention (particularly claim 1) and the cited references.

Claim 1 and 15 have been amended for purposes of clarifying the subject matter thereof. For example, claim 1 has been amended to clarify the meaning of one element ("redirecting the request...") without changing the scope of the claim or adding new matter. It is believed that this element might have been somewhat unclear as earlier presented. Claims 16 and 20 have been amended to correct inconsistent terminology and typographical errors.

Claim 1 (as amended) recites "detecting a request to obtain a content object from one of a plurality of content providers and redirecting the request from the content provider to a node of the same network..." (emphasis added). Such features are clearly not shown, taught or suggested by **Leatherbury** or **Pecus**, either alone or as combined by the Examiner.

Leatherbury discloses a communication system to distribute source information to a headend 103. The headend then distributes the source information to one or more distribution hubs 105, which then distribute the information to one or more nodes 107. The nodes 107 distribute the source information to one or more subscriber destinations. See col. 6, lines 16-26. In the described embodiment, the nodes 107 convert signals between optical and electrical formats (col. 7, lines 20-21). Nowhere in **Leatherbury** is there a teaching of "redirecting requests from the content provider to a node," as recited in claim 1.

The Examiner cites **Pecus** for its teaching of an edge node 500 that has multimedia servers for storing downloaded content (see page 3 of the Examiner's remarks). However, Applicants point out that even if **Pecus** were combined with **Leatherbury**, there would still be no teaching of "redirecting requests from the content provider to a node", as recited in claim 1. Furthermore, in Fig. 1 of **Pecus**, it is clear that the content provider 100 and the edge node 500 are in different networks, separated by a network operations center 300, and thus distinguishable from the Applicants' claimed feature of the node being in "the same network" as the content provider.

Claims 2-14 and 27-31 depend on claim 1. Accordingly, Applicants also respectfully submit that these claims are allowable for at least the same reasons discussed above.

Applicants also respectfully submit that claim 15 is allowable. Claim 15, as amended, recites "a content distribution system that comprises a node that relays a content object that originated from the content provider and stores portions of content objects in at least one of a cache and a file system". Claim 15 further recites that the "node and the content provider reside" within a network "for coupling the content provider to the node." Such features are not taught in **Leatherbury** or **Pecus**, where the node and the content provider do not reside within the same network. Therefore, Applicants respectfully submit that claim 20 and its dependent claims 16-19 are also allowable.

Claim 20 recites "sending the content object from one of the plurality of content providers to a cache within the network," and is thus also distinguishable from **Leatherbury** and

Pecus for the same reasons. Therefore, Applicants respectfully submit that claim 20 and its dependent claims 21-27 are also allowable.

Applicants also respectfully submit that independent claim 33 (and its dependent claim 34) are allowable. Claim 33 recites receiving a content object in a first streaming protocol, transcoding the content object to a second streaming protocol, and streaming the content object in the second streaming protocol to a content receiver. Applicants believe that neither **Leatherbury** nor **Pecus** teach or suggest transcoding a content object from a first streaming protocol to a second streaming protocol and sending the content object in the second streaming protocol to a content receiver.

New claim 35 recites subject matter similar to that of claim 1, with the additional limitation of "transcoding and buffering before transport of the content object is accomplished within the network of the node and content provider before transport to the network of a user, so that content may be provided in a manner that the user is accustomed to." For the same reasons as given above in connection with claim 1, claim 35 is believed distinguishable over **Leatherbury** and **Pecus**.

REQUEST FOR TELEPHONE INTERVIEW

If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, please telephone the undersigned at 303-571-4000.

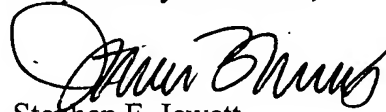
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CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, Applicants believe all claims now pending in this Application are in condition for allowance and an action to that end is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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